

MINUTES OF DECEMBER 8th, 1920.

The Board of Public Works met at the office of the Board of Public Works in Baltimore on Wednesday, December 8th, at 12 o'clock Noon.

Present:

Albert C. Ritchie, Governor,  
John M. Dennis, Treasurer.

The Secretary submitted the following letter:

"708 Arlington Avenue,  
Govans, Maryland,  
November 27, 1920.

P. B. Perlman, Esq.,  
1313 Fidelity Building,  
Baltimore, Maryland.

Dear Sir:-

In as much as the plot of ground located on the North side of North Avenue between Charles Street and Maryland Avenue is owned by the State of Maryland, I respectively hand you my application for the privilege of storing and selling Christmas trees at this place namely: The North side of North Avenue, between Charles Street and Maryland Avenue. I am anxious to obtain this privilege from December 18th, to the 24th inclusive. Will you kindly advise me at your earliest convenience whether my application will be accepted, stating also the price of this privilege for the above mentioned period of time. *mael*

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Harry H. Hooper."

The Secretary was authorized to give Mr. Hooper the privilege requested in the above letter upon the payment of the proper consideration, the amount of which should be reported to the Board.

The Secretary submitted the following letter:

"November 30th, 1920.

Conservation Commission of  
Maryland.

Hon. Philip B. Perlman,  
Secretary of State,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Sir:-

Since talking to you over the telephone this morning in reference to amount of insurance which should be placed on the State Steamer, Governor R. M. McLane, I have gotten in touch with Captain Creighton, and we are of the opinion that \$75,000. should be the amount of insurance placed on this vessel.

The contract price was \$33,826. which did not include hull, boiler and other machinery not destroyed by the fire.

We shall be very grateful to you if you will have this insurance placed at once. Thanking you for calling our attention to the matter.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Harrison W. Vickers, Jr.,  
Chairman."

The Board approved the action of the Secretary in placing insurance on the Steamer "Governor R. M. McLane" in the sum of \$75,000.00 with the firm of Maury and Donnelly-Williams Company.

The Secretary submitted the letter of the Conservation Commission of Maryland dated December 2nd, in which the attention of the Board was called to the fact that the Conservation Commission has had a tender built for the Steamer "Governor R. M. McLane" at an expense of \$1,500.00. The Conservation Commission requests that insurance be placed on the tender. The Secretary was directed to place the insurance on the tender as requested by the Conservation Commission.

The Secretary placed before the Board a bill from the Baltimore News amounting to \$76.00 for publishing advertisements for State printing in 1918. The Secretary was directed to pay this bill out of the Contingent Fund of the Board of Public Works.

The Secretary laid before the Board the final report on the sale of the property of the State Lime Plant as authorized by the Acts of 1920.

"College Park, Maryland,  
December 4th, 1920.

Mr. Philip B. Perlman,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Perlman;:

I gladly transmit the enclosed final statement and report of the State Lime Board. This letter was drawn up under date of October 24th. I am also enclosing checks in the total amount of \$1,218.81. It was not possible for Mr. Blandford to close the account with Mr. Hathaway until today. I sincerely hope that this report and statement will meet with your approval. We naturally are very regretful that this matter has been so long delayed but it seems that it could not have been otherwise.

Very truly yours,

(Signed) Thomas B. Symons,  
President, State Lime Board."

"College Park, Maryland,  
October 24th, 1920.

Mr. Philip B. Perlman, Secretary,  
Board of Public Works,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Perlman:-

In accordance with the instructions from the Board of Public Works, given through you, the members of the State Lime Board and Superintendent have finally disposed of all property belonging to the State, paid all obligations and transmit a balance herewith by checks, amounting to \$1,218.81, which with the amount in your hands, totals \$2,043.81 balance.

It has been a most tedious process but fortunately we have been able to secure very good prices for the equipment considering the demand for such material at this time and money conditions. All sales were made after advertisement upon a cash basis. One or two unexpected claims have been presented in ending the affairs of the Board and after a very careful investigation of claims, the Board with your approval has been able to make satisfactory adjustments for the State. This includes a final adjustment on contract or lease for Popes Creek property with Mr. Digges, copy of which was sent you.

Mr. Jos. H. Blandford, the Superintendent, has worked most

faithfully in order to dispose of this property on the best possible terms. He has received no salary since January 1st, 1920, and has only made a nominal charge for expenses and time since that date, amounting to \$185.00 for all the work in connection with the sale of the property.

When we look back on this project, notwithstanding the many obstacles which were to be over come, including the war period, which caught the work just as it had started, with labor difficulties, we feel that the project has been well worth while in the results accomplished.

The following may be pointed out.

1. More than 8,000 tons of lime and screenings have been distributed to farmers in Southern Maryland. Ninety per cent of these farmers had never used lime before.
2. It has created a demand for oyster shell lime in a section which was badly in need of lime for its agricultural development.
3. The State has demonstrated the usefulness of the large quantity of oyster shells that lay unused in Southern Maryland and over come considerable prejudice against the use of raw oyster shell lime.
4. The project has encouraged private plants to operate in this territory thus placing this section of the State in position to secure lime continually.
5. The project has been the means of greatly enhancing many acres of land in Southern Maryland for agricultural purposes by the liberal use of lime.

We, therefore, feel that the project has been well worth while even if conditions seem to justify that the grinding of shells in the future be left to private enterprises.

Vouchers for all expenditures, books and other accounts are in the hands of the Superintendent, Mr. Jos. H. Blandford, who transacted the business, and who will be pleased to turn these over to you. The minutes of the Board are available for whatever disposition you desire.

The Board wishes to convey our deep appreciation of the many courtesies extended to it by the Governor and Board of Public Works, including yourself, in thus finally ending its affairs.

Respectfully submitted,

(Signed) Thomas B. Symons, President,  
State Agricultural Lime Board."

The Secretary was directed to file the statement covering the expenses and receipts of the State Lime Board. The Board of Public Works approved the report, and directed the Secretary to turn over the checks; one amounting to \$1,175.79, and the other amounting to \$43.02, to the Comptroller. The total amounts received from the sale of the property are as follows:

10% of sale, Rock Point Plant -----	\$ 275.00
10% of sale, Benedict Plant -----	200.00
Pulverizer sold to William Numsen and Sons, Incorporated -----	350.00
Received from State Lime Board -----	<u>1,218.81</u>
Total net receipts -----	\$ 2,043.81

The Board considered the letter of the Union Trust Company to the State Board of Aid and Charities notifying it of an ad-

vance in rates of rental to \$2.50 per square foot, making a total for the offices of the State Board of Aid and Charities of \$1,270.00 per annum. The Board directed the Secretary to notify the State Board of Aid and Charities to enter into a new lease beginning on January 1st, 1921, at the increased rental.

The Secretary laid before the Board a bill of the Chesapeake and Telephone Company for \$97.89 made out to the Department of Labor of the Maryland Council of Defense, and also submitted a letter received from Mr. Lynn R. Meekins, former Secretary of the Maryland Council of Defense, in reference to the bill. The letter is as follows:

"Baltimore, Maryland,  
December 7th, 1920."

Hon. Philip B. Perlman,  
Secretary of State,  
Annapolis, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Perlman;

I have your letter of December sixth in reference to the bill of \$97.89 made out to the Maryland Council of Defense, Department of Labor. This refers to service for the Bureau for Returning Soldiers and Sailors under John K. Shaw located in the Hoen Building. Under this bureau were grouped various agencies such as the Y. M. C. A., Knights of Columbus, etc., who joined in securing places for the returning men. The work projected itself into the post-war period, but early in 1920 the Maryland Council of Defense withdrew from it and Mr. Shaw also withdrew, but a few of the agencies kept on. The Telephone Company was duly notified and for months we tried to get the bill so that the settlement could be made before the Council of Defense went out of business. Not only did we call them up but personal visits were made to the office and promises secured that the matter would be attended to. I understand that Mr. Shaw had the same trouble. Finally after the Council had closed by turning over its funds to the Board of Public Works I went personally to the Company and explained that it must place its case before the Board of Public Works. That was over four months ago and now the company has just waked up again. Last Spring one of its men told me the delay had occurred through the dereliction of one who was not now in the company's employ. The claim of the man who is handling the bill now is that the company lacked proper information as to closing the account.

Of course any authority in the matter I may have had ended on the 30th of last June. Until then we paid bills of this kind when O.k'd by John K. Shaw, Director of the Bureau for Returning Soldiers and Sailors.

Yours very truly,

(Signed) Lynn R. Meekins,

Former Secretary, Maryland Council of Defense.

I read the above to Mr. Shaw and he approves. He says he will be glad to follow the wishes of the Board of Public Works in the matter. His address is: John K. Shaw, 10 South Street."

The Secretary was directed to find out if the Comptroller could pay the bill out of any proceeds he may obtain from the sale of furniture belonging to the Maryland Council of Defense. In the event that the furniture is not sold, or the proceeds of sale is not sufficient, than the Secretary was directed to pay the bill out of the Contingent Fund of the Board of Public Works.

The Secretary laid before the Board a letter from Mr. Robert D. Case, Secretary of the State Board of Prison Control, requesting that the Board of Public Works place insurance on the new barn at the Maryland House of Correction, the value of which is \$18,275.00. The Secretary was directed to find out whether it is possible for the State Board of Prison Control to pay the premium on this insurance out of the earnings of the House of Correction.

The Board directed the Secretary to file a copy of the audit of the books and accounts of the Maryland House of Correction made by the State Auditor.

The Secretary reported that he had written the following letter to Hon. Thomas W. Simmons, former Secretary of State:

"Baltimore, Maryland,  
November 26th, 1920.

Hon. Thomas W. Simmons,  
Cambridge, Maryland.

Dear Mr. Simmons;

At a meeting of the Board of Public Works held to-day, the Comptroller laid before the Board your letter to him of November 23rd, in which you request an opportunity to appear before the Board for the purpose of presenting a statement of all the facts connected with your appointment, and your tenure of office so far as the fees of your office are concerned.

The Board considered your letter very carefully, and has directed me to write you that it regrets that it is unable to find that it has any authority to act in the matter, and that, therefore, no good purpose could possibly be accomplished by hearing your statement.

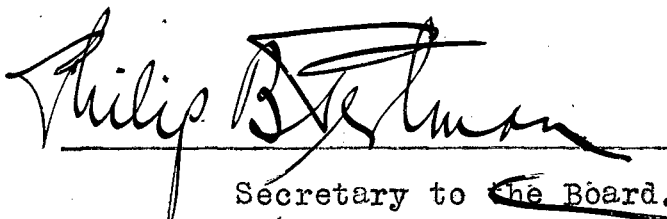
Very truly yours,

(Signed) Philip B. Perlman,

Secretary of State."

The Secretary was directed to request the Attorney General to prepare a resolution for the Board of Public Works to adopt authorizing the advertisement of the sale of bonds under Chapters 508 and 727 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 1920, and also for the sale of \$500,000.00 of bonds dated August 15th, 1920, not yet disposed of.

There being no further business, the Board adjourned.

  
Secretary to ~~the~~ Board.